

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 6034

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As Reported by Senate Committee On:  
Higher Education & Workforce Development, February 25, 2009

**Title:** An act relating to exempting institutions of higher education that do not use archives and records management services from payment for those services.

**Brief Description:** Exempting institutions of higher education that do not use archives and records management services from payment for those services.

**Sponsors:** Senators Kilmer, Becker, Jarrett and Shin.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Higher Education & Workforce Development: 2/24/09, 2/25/09 [DP-WM, w/oRec].

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

**Majority Report:** Do pass and be referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

Signed by Senators Kilmer, Chair; Jarrett, Vice Chair; Hewitt, Jacobsen, McAuliffe and Shin.

**Minority Report:** That it be referred without recommendation.

Signed by Senators Becker, Ranking Minority Member; Pflug and Stevens.

**Staff:** Aldo Melchiori (786-7439)

**Background:** The State Records Collections provide an account of public government in Washington State, beginning with the establishment of Washington Territory in 1853 and continuing to the present. Included among the collection are the papers of each governor, legislative records, court records, records from all state agencies, and all of the "official records" of the state, including governors' proclamations, executive orders, election results, and the laws as passed and signed. Records transferred to the archives are open to the public for research under the terms of the Public Disclosure Act.

The costs of archive services are allocated to state agencies using an allocation procedure established by the Secretary of State and the Director of Financial Management. Some Washington institutions of higher education do not use the services of the Division of

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Archives and Records Management, choosing instead to maintain their own records management systems.

**Summary of Bill:** Washington institutions of higher education that do not use the services of the Division of Archives and Records Management are exempt from the allocation procedure and are not required to pay any fees or charges.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on February 19, 2009.

**Committee/Commission/Task Force Created:** No.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony:** PRO: The institutions of higher education identified this as a potential way to save unnecessary costs. The University of Washington maintains its own archives but pays under the allocation procedure.

CON: The State Archivist sets the archiving rules and provides training for institutional archivists. Some institutions use co-located facilities and use student workers. Other state agencies would have to pick up the difference in costs.

**Persons Testifying:** PRO: Senator Kilmer, prime sponsor; Mike Reilly, Council of Presidents.

CON: Megan Moreno, Secretary of State.